

A
LETTER
SENT

To the Right Honourable, the
Lord MAYOR, Aldermen and
Common-Councell of the
City of LONDON.

Form *Royston*, June 10. 1647.

FROM *K*
His Excellencie, Sir *Thomas Fairfax*,

Oliver Cromwel
Thomas Hamond
Henry Ireton
Thomas Rainsborow
Hardress Waller
Nathaniel Rich

Robert Hamond
Robert Lilburn
Thomas Pride
Thomas Hewson
John Disborow



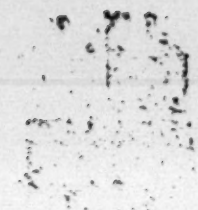
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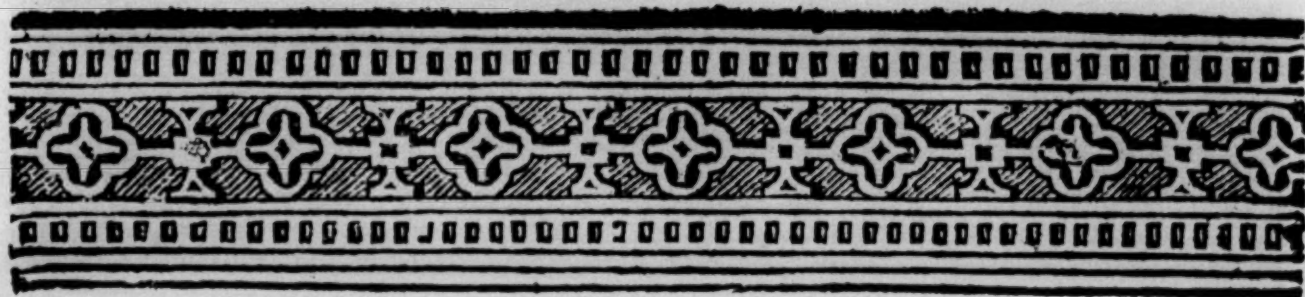
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Right honourable and worthy Friends :

HAVING by our Letters and other Addresses presented by our Noble G E N E R A L L to the Honorable House of COMMONS, endeavoured to give satisfaction of the clearnesse of our just Demands; and also in Papers published by us, remonstrated the grounds of our proceedings in prosecution thereof : All which having been exposed to publike view (we are confident) have come to your hands, and (at the least) received a charitable construction from you. The summe of all which our desires, as Souldiers, are no other then a desire of satisfaction to our Demands as Souldiers, and reparation upon those who have to the uttermost improved all opportunities and advantages, by false suggestions and misrepresentations and otherwise, for the destruction of this Army with a perpetuall blot of infamy upon it; which we should not value, if it singly concerned our own particulars (being ready to deny our selves in this (as we have done in other cases for the Kingdomes good :) But under this pretence finding no lesse involved in it then the overthrow of the Priviledges both of Parliament & People; whom, rather then they shall fail in their

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designes,

designes, or we receive what in the eyes of all good men is just, Endeavours to engage the Kingdome in a new Warre, and this singly by those who [when the truth of these things shall be made to appeare] will be found the authors of those evils that are feared, as having no other way to protect themselves from question and punishment, but by putting the Kingdome into blood [being under pretences of the honour of, and their love to the Parliament, as if that were dearer to them then us, if they had given greater proof of their faithfulness to it then we.] But we perceive that under these vailes and pretences they seek to interresse their designe in the City of *London*, as if that City ought to make good their miscarriages, and should prefer a few self-seeking men before the welfare of the Publike; and indeed we have found these men so active to accomplish their designes, and to have such apt Instruments for their turn in the City, that we have cause to suspect they may ingage many therein upon mistakes, which are easily swallowed in times of such prejudice against men that have given (we may speak it without vanity) the most publike testimony of their good affection to the Publike, and to that City in particular.

For the things we insist upon as *English-men*, [and meerly as being *Souldiers*, hath not stript us of that interest, although our malicious enemies would have it so] we desire a settlement of the Peace of the Kingdom, and of the Liberties of the Sub-

Subject, according to the Votes and Declarations of Parliameur, which before we took up arms, were by the Parliam. used as arguments & inducements to invite us and divers of our dear friends out, [some of which have lost their lives in this war] which being by Gods blessing finished, we think we have as much right to demand, and desire to see an happy settlement of, as wee have to our money, or the other common interests of Souldiers we have insisted upon. We finde also the most ingenious and honest people in almost all parts of the Kingdome where we come, full of the feuse of ruine and misery, if the Army should be disbanded before the Peace of the Kingdome and those other things before mentioned have a full and perfect settlement.

We have said before, and professe it now, we desire no alteration of the Civil Governement.

We desire not to intermeddle with, or in the least to interrupt the settling of the Presbyteriall Government, nor doe we seek to open a way to Licentious Liberty under pretence of obtaining ease for Tender Consciences, we professe (as ever) in these things (when the State hath once made a settlement, we have nothing to say, but to submit or suffer; only we could wish that every good Citizen, and evey man that walks peaceably in a blamelesse conversation, and is beneficiall to the Common-wealth, may have liberty & encouragement, it being according to the just policy of all States, even to Justice it self.

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These in breif are our desires, and the things for which we stand, beyond which wee shall not goe, and for the obtaining these things we are drawing neer your City, professing sincerely from our hearts, we intend not evill towards you, and undertaking to you, declaring with all confidence and assurance, that if you appear not against us in these our just desires to assist that wicked partie that would embroyle us, and the Kingdome, nor wee, nor our Souldies shall give the least offence, we come not to doe any Act to prejudice the Being of Parliaments, or to the Hurt of this in Order to the present settlement of the Kingdome, we seek the good of all, and wee shall here wait, or remove to a further distance there to abide (if once we be assured that a speedy settlement of things be in hand) untill they be accomplished, which done, we shall bee most ready, either all of us, or so many of the Army as the Parliament shall thinke fit, to disband, or go for *Ireland*.

And although you suppose that rich Citie may seem an inviting bait to poor hungrie Souldiers to venture far to gaine the wealth thereof, yet (if not provoked) we do professe rather then any such evil should fall out, the Souldiers shall make their way through our blood to effect it. And we can say this for most of them, for your better assurance, that they so little value their pay in comparison of higher Concernements to the Publick Good, that rather then they will be unrighted in the matter, their Honesty and Integrity,

grity which hath suffered by the men they aim at, and desire justice upon, or want the settlement of the Kingdomes peace, and therewith their fellow subjects Liberties, they will lose all, which may be a strong assurance to you that its not your wealth they seek, but the things tending in Common to your and their Welfare, which that they may obtain, you shall do like fellow-subjects and brethren if you solicit the Parliament for them, and on their behalf.

If after all this, You, or a considerable part of you, be seduced to take up Arms in opposition to, or hindrance of these our just undertakings; We hope by this brotherly Admonition, to the sincerity whereof we call God to witnesse, we have freed our selves from all that ruine which may befall that great and populous *City*, having hereby washed our hands thereof.

Your affectionate Friends to serve you,

Thomas Fairfax

Oliver Cromwel

Thomas Hamond

Henry Ireton

Thomas Rainsborow

Hardress Waller

Nathaniel Rich

Robert Hamond

Robert Lilburn

Thomas Pride

Thomas Hewson

John Disborow

F I N I S.